THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Contravention of Customs Act by DPC

523. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Dhabhol Power Company (DPC) has reportedly shifted certain imported critical components from its Guhagar Plant, which were extended a concessional rate of Customs Duty;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against DPC to confiscate these components as the same is in contravention of Section 111(0) of Customs Act; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On being asked to explain, DPC have stated, *vide* letter dated 28.1.2002, that certain components were removed from the project site for security reasons and that all these components are presently lying in their custody. A writ petition was filed by them in this regard in the Bombay High Court and in pursuance of the directions of the hon'ble Court, the said components were produced before it on 24.1.2002. DPC has also clarified that the components would be used in the power project whenever it resumes operation.

The reply given by DPC is being examined by the jurisdictional Customs authorities for taking appropriate action.

Cut down on subsidies

524. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance had requested the Ministry of Civil Aviation to cut down the subsidy on Haj Pilgrimage this year; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the response of the Ministry of Civil Aviation in this regard?